




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Glenvale State School

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (8.59 pm): I rise tonight to speak about Glenvale State School—a school on the western fringe of my electorate that has doubled in size since the early 2000s. With that growth has come a range of congestion, car parking and safety problems. We know that there are plans to have an additional 30,000 residents living on the western fringe of Toowoomba by 2050. Any community that grows by that number and at that rate will suffer significant problems.

The Toowoomba Regional Council estimate that 2,200 vehicles pass Glenvale State School every day and that 10 per cent of those are trucks. The school community at Glenvale State School know all about this. I was recently presented with a petition by a school parent, Melissa Greensill, which contained nearly 400 signatures of concerned parents. I have forwarded that petition to the minister, along with a request that the department urgently consider remedying this dangerous situation through either additional car parking or reconfiguring existing car parking arrangements. There is great urgency to this request because there is a great risk that someone will be injured or killed on this road. I have witnessed near misses when I have been attending the school.

There is also great urgency because the Toowoomba Regional Council have already approved a developer to proceed with an estate that will completely wrap the school in additional houses. Today there is only one access point to enter and leave the school. When this adjacent land is developed, there will be no more viable opportunities to fix these safety concerns. We know that the Brisbane developer wants to turn the first sod on the development in the next few months. They are desperate to turn the sod and make money. The Glenvale community and I are desperate to find a solution to the traffic congestion and ensure that the children of the school community can move safely to and from school.

Once this development is completed, the only available option will be to secure land across the other side of Glenvale Road, which is completely unacceptable. It would essentially mean that 800 primary school students would have to cross a road which has 2,200 vehicles traversing it every day. The reason why there is so much traffic on this road is that it is a major road to development activities, suburban and acreage homes and the Royal Toowoomba Showgrounds. The showgrounds do a wonderful job supporting the work of our community. They work hard to attract and conduct events all year round. These events require considerable traffic movement and often involve heavy vehicle movement that will only increase. The management committee of the Toowoomba Royal Show are also very concerned about this issue and are seeking action to be taken.

I will continue fighting for the people of western Toowoomba to make sure that they receive their fair share—to make sure they receive the services they deserve—and to make sure that we have an environment where our children at Glenvale State School can move safely to and from classes each and every day.